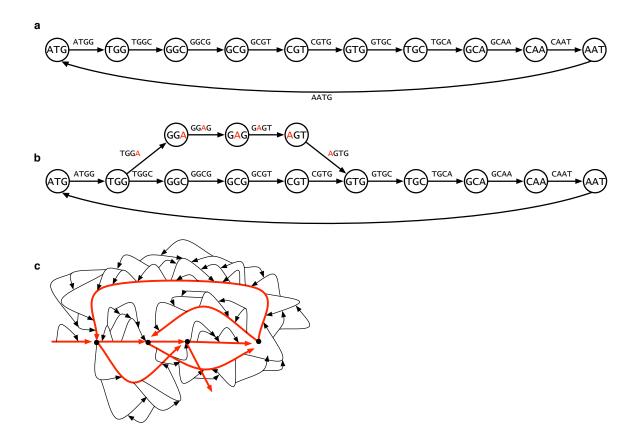
## **Supplementary Figures**

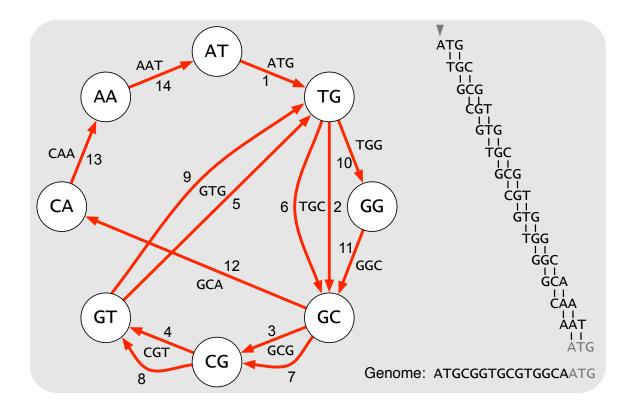
## Why are de Bruijn graphs useful for genome assembly?

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Supplementary Figure 1. De Bruijn graph from reads with sequencing errors. (a) A de Bruijn graph E on our set of reads with k = 4. Finding an Eulerian cycle is already a straightforward task, but for this value of k, it is trivial. (b) If TGGAGTG is incorrectly sequenced as a sixth read (in addition to the correct TGGCGTG read), then the result is a *bulge* in the de Brujin graph, which complicates assembly. (c) An illustration of a de Brujin graph E with

many bulges. The process of bulge removal should leave only the red edges remaining, yielding an Eulerian path in the resulting graph.



Supplementary Figure 2. De Bruijn graph of a genome with repeats. The graph *E* for *k*-mers with different multiplicities: each of the four 3-mers TGC, GCG, CGT, and GTG has multiplicity 2, and each of the six 3-mers ATG, TGG, GGC, GCA, CAA, and AAT has multiplicity 1. An Eulerian cycle is formed by following the numbered edges in the order 1,2,...,14: *A*TG, *T*GC, *G*CG, *C*GT, *G*TG, *T*GC, *G*CG, *C*GT, *G*TG, *T*GC, *G*CG, *C*GA, *C*AA, *A*AT. This Eulerian cycle spells the cyclic superstring *ATGCGTGCGTGGCA*.